

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1, 7 and 12 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend Claims 3, and 8-11 as follows.

1-2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The ink-jet recording medium according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, wherein the degree of saponification of said polyvinyl alcohol is between 78% and 89%.

4-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An ink-jet recording medium ~~according to claim 7,~~ comprising a base sheet and an ink-receiving layer on the base sheet, for use in an ink-jet image forming method in which a transparent film layer formed on a substrate as coating is placed on the ink-receiving layer on which recording has been conducted, and then the side of said substrate is heated to transfer said transparent film layer on said ink-receiving layer, followed by peeling off said substrate to laminate said transparent film layer on the surface of said ink receiving layer,

said ink-receiving layer containing polyvinyl alcohol, porous inorganic silica particles ~~wherein the~~ having an average particle diameter of silica is between 5 μ m and 7 μ m, and an epoxy compound as a cross-linking agent,

wherein the content of the polyvinyl alcohol in said ink-receiving layer is not lower than 30 weight %, the content of porous inorganic silica particles in said ink-receiving layer is 100 to 300 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of polyvinyl alcohol and the

content of the epoxy compound is such that 1 to 10 equivalents of epoxy ring is contained based on 100 equivalents of OH group of the polyvinyl alcohol.

9. (Currently Amended) The ink-jet recording medium according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, wherein the average degree of polymerization of said polyvinyl alcohol is between 1,500 and 3,600.

10. (Withdrawn) The ink-jet printed article comprising the ink-jet recording medium according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 8 having an image formed on the ink-receiving layer thereof, said transparent film layer being formed on said ink-receiving layer as coating.

11. (Withdrawn) An image forming method comprising the steps of forming an image on the ink-receiving layer of the ink-jet recording medium according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 8 by ink-jet and coating said ink-receiving layer with the transparent film layer by heating.

12. (Cancelled)